Publishing Philosophy

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The publishing philosophy of the *Journal of the Academy of Public Health* is composed of four commitments:

(i) open access, **(ii)** open & rigorous peer review, **(iii)** rewarding reviewers, and **(iv)** a timely and efficient publishing process.

I. Open Access

All articles in the *Journal of the Academy of Public Heath* are open access and freely available for anyone to read. They are published under the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY 4.0) license, permitting its broad reuse and distribution so long as appropriate source and author attributions are made.

II. Open and Rigorous Peer Review

To promote open and polite scientific discourse, all peer reviews are published together with the research articles, signed by the reviewer. This enhances the readers' understanding of and appreciation for the research, while giving young scientists improved understanding of scientific reasoning and interpretation. It also facilitates appropriate appraisal of scientific research, as it can be based on peer reviews of the actual work rather than on the prestige or impact factor of the journal in which it is published.

III. Rewarding Reviewers

Reviewers should be rewarded for their important work. The major added value that journals provide compared to preprint servers is peer review, and as a non-profit we are able to provide an honorarium for each review. Since the reviews are signed and published, reviewers also get public recognition and appreciation, as well as an item to add to their *curriculum vitae*.

IV. Timely and Efficient Publishing

Members of the Academy of Public Health can publish any of their public health research in *JAPH*. Through pre-submission gatekeeping at the author level rather than for each article, and by assuming that all our members have valuable scientific contributions that are worthy of publication, the research can be published more rapidly, without potentially having to submit it to multiple journals. Great research should be published as soon as possible to promptly advance science. Flawed research is better published together with critical reviews from the first journal to which it is submitted. Now such papers waste precious time by requiring multiple reviews and rejections by different journals, while most are still eventually published with a stamp of approval from a "peer-reviewed journal," but without readers having access to those earlier critical reviews.

For more a more extensive discussion of our publishing philosophy, please read the Perspective on academic publishing that our Founding Editor-in-Chief Martin Kulldorff wrote for the inaugural issue in 2025: "The Rise and Fall of Scientific Journals and a Way Forward."

For technical issues,
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